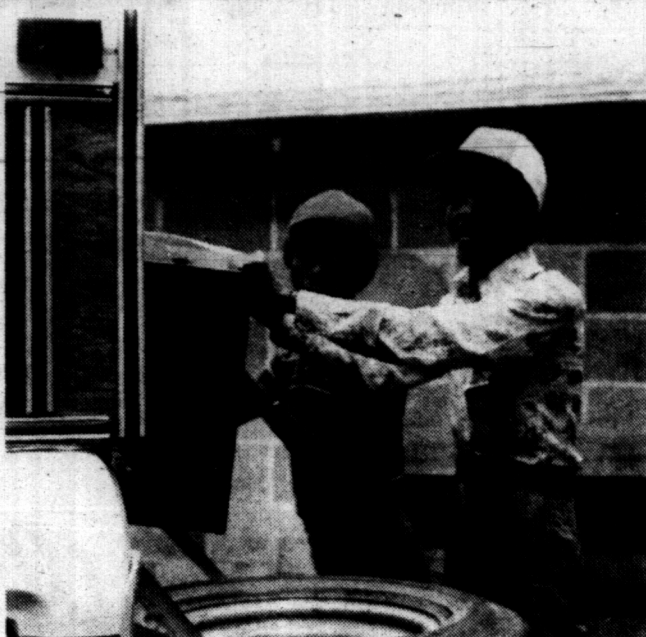




Charles Culp and Solomon Magee carry a chair out of the ministry center's storage room and load it with other furniture



in their pick-up. After Magee's house burned at Davenport, Riverside Baptists helped to give him a fresh start.



Dorothy Wilson, Clarksdale Church; J. M. Lewis, Oakhurst Church; and Carolyn Fowler, Cherry Street Church, unpack food at the Riverside Ministry Center. Mrs. Wilson is Riverside associational WMU director.

Riverside aids USA's "poorest county"

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

A mattress, a bedstead, a chest, a chair—Solomon Magee selected these at the Riverside Ministry Center in Clarksdale. His house at Davenport had burned. To begin again, these pieces would be essential. With the help of Charles Culp, who lives with the Magee family, he loaded them on a pick-up truck.

Baptists through this Center provide furniture, food, and clothes to the indigent over a five-county area, Tunica, Bolivar, Tallahatchie, Quitman, and Coahoma counties.

"A mattress, a bedstead, a chair, a chest.... To begin again, these are the essentials."

An article in the Baptist Record earlier this year about the Hinds-Madison Baptist Center inferred that no matching ministry existed in the Delta. Perhaps that is true in some portions of the Delta—but a ministry center has been giving out, in a big way, for two years, in Clarksdale.

"This is the only ongoing type of ministry of this kind in the north

Delta," said M. C. Johnson, Riverside director of missions. "There is no Salvation Army or Red Cross working here." Yet a large percentage of people in those counties live below the poverty level.

"Tunica County is the poorest county in the United States," Johnson stressed.

"Our furniture goes fast," he added. "During the winter we averaged about two burn-outs a week in which the occupants lost all their possessions." Individuals and churches have given furniture to the Center. Also, the household goods in several estates have been turned over to them. When parents died, the children gave the furniture to the Center. More, however, is always needed.

Churches have given furniture, food, and clothes—and have sent volunteers. At least 10 or 12 volunteers a week help to unpack and sort food and clothing and work in other assorted chores.

Thelma Turner of Cherry Street Church donated her time—three days a week—to oversee the center, taking and checking applications for aid. Evelyn Schrider of Lyon Church spends at least one day a week, sometimes more, unpacking and sizing clothes, and filling orders. On a re-

cent Friday, Dorothy Wilson, associational WMU director and member of Clarksdale Church, along with J. M. Lewis from Oakhurst Church and Carolyn Fowler from Cherry Street Church spent the morning at the Center unpacking food.

"Through the winter we helped up to 50 families a week, but since the weather has been warmer, the number has been down to around 30 a week," Johnson said. "Of these, about 70 percent are black people."

Sometimes the Center helps to pay utility bills. "But we are limited to how much we can do in this. Some churches say, 'We will help.' Several individuals have offered to give for this, in case of emergency."

The Riverside Ministry Center began under direction of Jerry Gray, who was then director of missions. Johnson took up duties there when he became director of missions last fall for Riverside and Tallahatchie associations. The project, which began as a Riverside one, expanded to Tallahatchie, and now serves the five-county area.

"It is a faith ministry," Johnson said, "and is not in our associational budget." Donations have been varied. Two grocery stores regularly donate damaged goods (bent cans, broken

labels, etc.) Two shoe stores keep the Center supplied with shoes—budget shoes, but new.

One man gave 100 Air Force jackets—which during the winter people gladly wore away. An individual from Lula Church recently gave \$500 worth of jeans.

A Brotherhood group renovated the Ministry Center building, where Johnson's associational office is also located.

A \$1,500 gift from the Home Mission Board came from its hunger fund. With it, the association bought foods high in protein, such as peanut butter, canned chicken, canned beef, powdered milk, and corned beef hash. Nutrition experts at Mississippi State helped to work out the kinds and amounts of food that would feed one person, or families of varying sizes, for a week.

"We get referrals from the welfare department, food stamp program, social services, and Aid to Dependent Children," Johnson said. "If someone comes in, not by referral, we check their application. This usually takes a couple of days."

"Catholic Sisters in Tunica County send people to us and we do everything we can to meet the needs of these people. School teachers call-

ed during the winter about children who had not enough clothes, or no shoes."

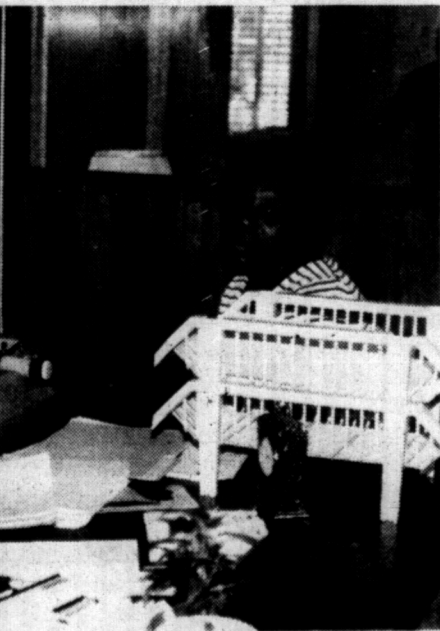
They need more children's clothes, and more volunteers. Their biggest need, the director of missions said, is a regular full-time employee in Christian social ministries, someone to coordinate the work at the ministry center. Johnson has other responsibilities as director of missions in Tallahatchie and as director of that association's summer camp, Lakeside. Ceresse Teel, his secretary, and all the volunteers are kept extremely busy.

Not only does the Riverside Association give away food, clothing, and furniture. They offer a variety of programs designed to help in such areas as child abuse, alcoholism, wife abuse, unwed mothers, literacy, parole counseling, financial planning, drug abuse, and family planning.

Riverside Baptists evidently have read James 2:15-16: "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?" They are giving "those things which are needful."



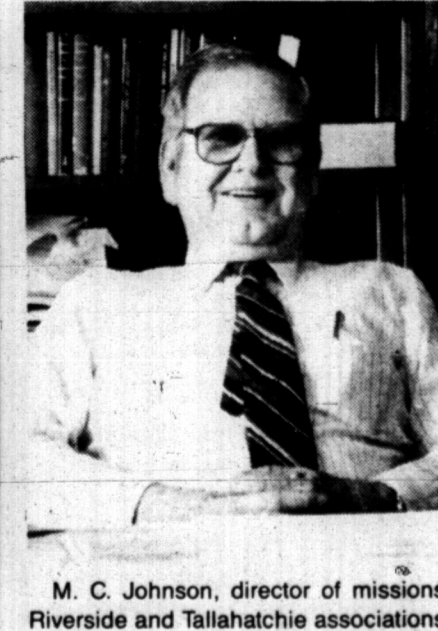
Thelma Turner, member of Cherry Street church, fills out an application for



Cora Lee Norton of Clarksdale, while answering the phone.



Evelyn Schrider, member of Lyon Church, unpacks new shoes.



M. C. Johnson, director of missions, Riverside and Tallahatchie associations, directs the activities at the Riverside Ministry Center.

The Baptist Record

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Editorials..... by don mcgregor

The new annuity plan

Mississippi is leading the way in adopting a new annuity plan that is designed to dramatically increase the income that annuitants will receive after retirement.

Evidently Harrisburg Church in Tupelo was the first church in the Southern Baptist Convention to sign up for the new annuity plan, which becomes operational on Jan. 1, 1988. Union Church in Alcorn Association seemed to have been the second to sign.

A Mississippi association has become the first among Southern Baptists to have 100 percent of the churches in the association to accept the new plan. It is Sharkey-Issaquena. A letter from C. A. Bozeman of Rolling Fork, who is the associational Annuity Service Committee member in the association, confirms the 100 percent status. Bozeman presented the plan in his association, and all of the churches adopted it. Thereby he became the first associational annuity

service representative to achieve that level of commitment.

The new church annuity plan is being readied for service because through the years many retirees have received completely inadequate resources for taking care of their needs. Under the old plan the individuals have decided whether or not they wanted to participate and then have sought to enlist the interest of their churches. Under the new plan the churches will be the initiating agencies, and the Annuity Board representatives will be active in seeking to enlist the churches.

The individuals, the churches, and the state conventions all will participate. The plan is tailored around the concept of an individual putting in five percent of his salary, the church contributing 10 percent of the salary, and the state convention participating up to \$420 per year for each person who is involved.

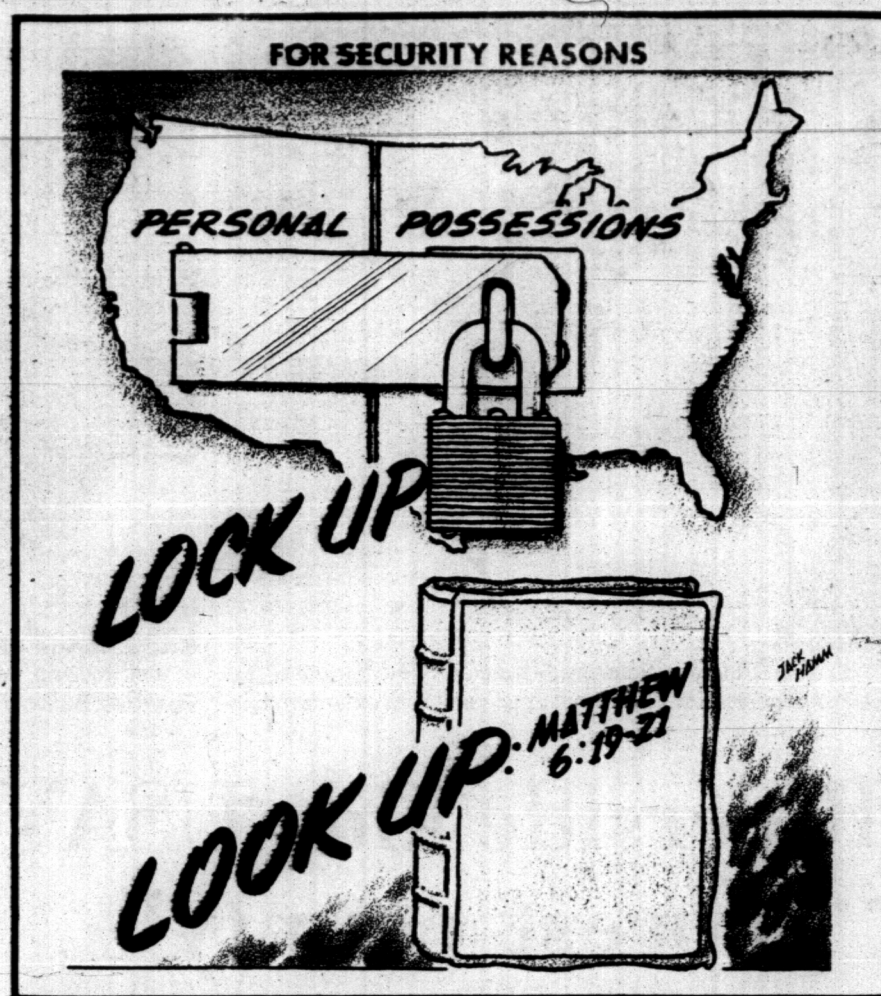
The young minister who gets into the plan early enough and par-

ticipates fully enough after retirement can draw 91 percent of the average of his salary over the last five years of his service.

The plan will cover ministerial personnel from the beginning of their ministry or from the arrival on a new church field. For other paid church personnel the plan will cover those who work at least half time (20 hours) and have been on the job for at least three years.

The new plan that is being projected has many commendable features and cannot be adequately explained in the brief space of this writing. Mississippi Annuity Board Representative Bill Sellers is already at work explaining the concept wherever he is allowed to do so.

It is a good plan. It is a better plan than is in use at this time. It will be to the advantage of the churches to participate in the plan. Sellers may be contacted at 968-3800. He will be able to give a complete account of the details.



World Baptists top 32 million

WASHINGTON — Membership in Baptist churches worldwide continued upward during 1984, to total 32,195,970 baptized members in 125,767 churches and nearly 30,000 "other preaching places."

The figures represent 131 Baptist World Alliance member bodies in 93 nations and dependencies. They do not include estimates for independent Baptist groups.

By comparison, figures for August, 1983 showed 31,553,278 members in 123,305 churches. BWA member

bodies reported 30,652,084 members in 118,719 churches for the year 1982.

The net membership gain of 642,692 represents a 2.0368 percent increase over the 1983 total.

Baptist totals for Europe were less, however, with 1,108,114 members reported as against 1,110,792 in 1983 and 1,111,843 for 1982. The European membership is found in 10,392 churches with 1,765 other preaching places. However, it reflects only official figures submitted by European Baptist Federation Unions.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer.

A chance for the young

Editor:

I am writing you after reading "A Chance for the Young" (March 28th issue). I, too, am a seminary graduate since May of '84 with a master of religious education degree. I have often wondered in the last 11 months what is wrong with our system and

what can be done to correct it. I have sent my resume to all of the state conventions that Southern Baptists have. I have also sent my resume to the many associational missionaries in Mississippi. Many of my friends have my resume as well as some of my seminary professors. Yet I have only had one interview since graduation. I believe God has called me to work with and minister to young people. I would enjoy serving in the church of his choice. Our seminaries have trained many men and women to work on staff in churches. Why are many of them having to take secular jobs instead of doing what they were trained to do and what God has called them to do? I have talked with many people about this but have yet to discover what can be done to correct (or maybe help) this situation.

I would appreciate any suggestions.

Karen Rowell
Rt. 2, Box 377
Carriere, MS 39426

God's plan is for people to give freewill offerings from a heart stirred by him before construction. In the light of Scriptures such as Proverbs 22:26 and Romans 13:8, can anyone honestly say their building debt brings glory to God?

Burning these notes can be a joy but only if the church leaders and people recognize and repent from their sin of distrust and deceit. Either trust God to provide for his people or admit you don't. If a note is burned, really bring glory to God by not repeating the foolish steps that made you a servant of the world and its god, the bank.

Mrs. Alice Talley
Columbus

Pastor needed in Vermont

To the Editor:

New Hope Baptist Chapel, a small Southern Baptist mission church in Rutland, Vermont, is searching for a bi-vocational pastor. We have a small membership and can offer very little salary, but we offer a challenge for ministry and outreach that is unlimited. If you are moved by God to explore this opportunity, please contact us.

Frank Kramer, Chm.
Pastoral Search Committee
New Hope Baptist Chapel
80 Harrington Avenue
Rutland, Vermont 05701

Playboy cancelled

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (EP) — Cox Cable Company here has pulled the Playboy Channel off the air. A grand jury returned seven indictments against the cable franchise for distributing obscene material, after screening 13 hours of programming in response to a campaign by a group of pastors against the sexually-explicit cable channel.

Note-burning pride

Editor:

I am confused at the pride and joy people have in burning notes on new church buildings. Shouldn't their attitude rather be one of humility and shame? All they did was distrust God to provide money for their new building and seek the aid of a secular institution thus becoming a servant of that institution. Then, of course, they played on the guilt and emotions of members and praised God all the while. Somehow I don't see how God can be glorified in such affairs.

If ours is indeed a God who is supreme and does not change (Hebrews 13:8), wouldn't he use the same building plan today as he did during the construction of the tabernacle, the temple, and the reconstruction of the temple? (Exodus 25:12, Ezra 1:5-6, and I Chronicles 29:1-17) Basically,

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Don McGregor Editor
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Ferrell O. Cork, Jr., Aberdeen; Marcus Finch, Meridian; Bruce Hill, Lexington, vice-chairman; Owen Lusk, Columbia; Robert H. Jackson, Brandon; Dan Thompson, Harpersville, chairman. Ex-officio, Evelyn Keyes, Jackson, secretary.

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Book Reviews

KEEP IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT, by J. I. Packer; Fleming H. Revell Company, 1984; 301 pages; hardback, \$11.95.

I began this book with a "ho-hum" attitude. So much has been written recently on the Holy Spirit. But was I in for a pleasant surprise! This book scratches me where I itch. As the title suggests, the book is practical, not purely theoretical. Packer is concerned that our views of the Holy Spirit be biblically accurate. But he is also concerned that our present appreciation and experience of the Holy Spirit be adequate. A primary concern is the identity of the Holy Spirit with the person of Christ. The experience of the filling of God's Spirit is one and the same thing as the control of our lives by Jesus Christ. Two major concerns dominate the book. The first is holiness. Packer treats three typical approaches; Augustinian, Wesleyan, and Keswick, opting himself for the first of these. He sounds a missing note in modern Christianity when he declares, "The world's greatest need is the personal holiness of Christian people."

The second major concern is the Charismatic movement. Packer sympathetically, yet critically, analyzes the movement, listing a dozen strong points with as many weaknesses. The theological shallowness of the move-

ment is in for some hard knocks. But this emphasis on vital worship and total commitment are blessings to the total church. Packer gives us one of the fairest appraisals of tongues and gifts and other Spirit phenomena that I have found. Packer gives a clarion call for the revival of the church. We can have a revived and exuberant church with dynamic worship and Spirit-filled services without the shallowness, sensationalism, and super-spirituality that have been a part of so much revivalism and pentecostalism. I recommend this book.—Reviewed by Alan Day, pastor, First Church, McComb.

BLESSINGS OF LOVE by Augustine Burch, (Magee Printing Co., Brookhaven, 10 pages, \$1.95) This beautifully bound small booklet contains poems by Augustine Burch of Brookhaven. A single red rose adorns the cover. It is excellent for use as a greeting card — to someone who is ill, or for a birthday, or just because "Thinking of You." Mrs. Burch's poetic descriptions of the changing seasons are exquisite. Her prayer-poems reveal her spiritual depth. The theme is God's love. Blessings of Love is on sale in two stores in Brookhaven, Christian Book Store and Burt's, Inc. Or the author has them at her home, West Chickasaw Extension, Brookhaven, Miss. 39601. — AWM

Stanley announces committee appointees

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The Committee on Committees and the Resolutions Committee for the 1985 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention have been announced by Charles F. Stanley, convention president.

The committees were announced April 26, in keeping with bylaws provisions of the SBC Constitution, which require the release of the two key committees 45 days in advance of the annual meeting, scheduled June 11-13 in the Dallas Convention Center.

The two committees are appointed by the convention president, and do not require ratification by messengers. Stanley also appoints the Credentials and Tellers Committees, which will be released later.

The key responsibility of the Committee on Committees is to nominate the Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Commissions, which, in turn, nominates trustees for the 20 national SBC agencies. The Committee on Committees also is charged with nominating "all special committees authorized during the session of the Convention not otherwise provided for."

The Resolutions Committee

receives, processes, and reports back to the convention any resolutions presented during the three-day convention session.

The Committee on Committees is made up of 52 persons, two from each state which qualifies for representation on SBC boards by having more than 25,000 members. The Resolutions Committee is made up of 10 persons, three of whom must be members of the SBC Executive Committee.

Stanley told Baptist Press he received more than 500 nominations for the 62 posts.

"The appointment procedure is an enormous task," he said. "There are so many wonderful people out there to serve, it is hard sometime to make a choice. Stanley added he 'telephoned each of the people appointed personally to talk with them about their responsibilities.'"

He said in early Fall, 1984, he solicited names from state convention executive directors, presidents, as well as receiving nominations from individuals. The 500 names were put into a computer and the winnowing process started.

"We asked every state convention if there was any reason any person should not serve. Any person they mentioned, we did not appoint," Stanley said. "Any names submitted by persons viewed in their state as extreme, hostile or representative of a political coalition were not considered. We tried to choose people who could make a contribution, who did not have any axe to grind."

He said one potential nominee "said he did not think he ought to serve because of his personal feelings about the convention right now. He withdrew his nomination."

Stanley said: "In the case of the Texas appointments, where there is emotional involvement on both sides, the persons selected were recommended from out of state."

Stanley said each state convention office was called and asked about Cooperative Program contributions from the churches of which potential nominees were members. "With only two exceptions, the conventions provided the information we requested," he said.

"I sought to appoint people who are, in my opinion, loyal, cooperating, (Continued on page 4)

The Baptist Record

Foreign Board commissions five from Mississippi

Among the missionaries from Mississippi appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board last week are an artist, a physician, and a marriage and family life counselor.

Five Mississippians were among 37 people named missionaries at a commissioning service in Nashville two weeks ago. They are D. P. (Diane) Smith, of Jackson, Daniel and Lydia Jones of Laurel, and Charles and Netta Boudreaux of Pascagoula.

Miss Smith, Acteens consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson, will serve in Ivory Coast, West Africa, where she will be an artist.

Born in Collins, she grew up in Jackson and is a graduate of Mississippi University for Women. She earned the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Seminary. She expects to complete the master of fine arts degree from Mississippi College this summer.

Miss Smith has worked as a graphic artist in Fort Worth and was a graduate teaching assistant at MUW. She has been interim minister of youth at Broadmoor Church, Jackson; Broadway, Fort Worth; First, Albuquerque; and First, Jackson. She was a summer missionary in North Dakota.

Daniel and Lydia Jones of Laurel will serve in Korea where he will be a physician and she will be a church and home worker. He is an internist at Internal Medicine Clinic in Laurel. They are members of First Church, Laurel. He is a native of Morton and the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Harold Jones of Vicksburg. His father is a retired Baptist minister.

Jones is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the doctor of medicine degree from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in



Charles and Netta Boudreaux

Jackson. He served, along with his wife, as a summer missionary in Massachusetts.

Mrs. Jones, the former Lydia Channel is a native of Jackson and the daughter of the late T. N. Channel and Mabel Channel of Inverness, Fla. Her father was a Baptist minister.

She is a graduate of Mississippi College having earned the bachelor of science degree in education, the master of education degree, and the specialist degree in school administration. She has been a teacher in Crystal Springs.

The Joneses have two children: Jennifer Elizabeth, born in 1977; and Jason Alan, 1982.

Charles and Netta Boudreaux of Pascagoula will serve in Guyana where he will be a marriage and family life counselor and she will be a home and church worker.

Boudreaux has a private counseling practice, is minister of youth at Parkway Church, Pascagoula, and is former associate Baptist Student Union director at Gulf Coast Junior College, Gautier.

Born in Hattiesburg, Boudreaux is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary, where he expects to receive the doctor of education degree in December. He has been a store operator in Ocean Springs, a library aide at MC, and a houseparent along with his wife for a home in Marrero, La. He also served as minister of music and youth at New Hope Church, Meridian, and Toomsaba Church, Toomsaba.



Daniel and Lydia Jones

Born in New Orleans, Mrs. Boudreaux, the former Netta Richardson, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis D. Richardson of Noxapater. Her father is retired Baptist minister.

She is a graduate of Clarke College and earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Mississippi College. She achieved registered nurse standing by examination in Mississippi. She has been a rehabilitation center nurse in Jackson and a nurse consultant in New Orleans. She also served as a summer missionary (Continued on page 10)

Lambert named student VP at Southern Seminary

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Elisabeth Lambert, a native of Jackson, Miss., has been named vice president for student services at Southern Baptist Seminary.

Lambert, who has served as dean of students at Southern Seminary for several years, was elected as the seminary's fourth vice-president by the board of trustees in their recent meeting.

A graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary, Lambert is the daughter of Mrs. Erin Ewing and the late William R. Ewing of Jackson. She is married to Frank Lambert, a native of Hattiesburg, and president of Belknap, Inc., of Louisville.

S.S. meet at Hebron features small church

A Sunday School Leadership Conference for churches with enrollments of 150 or less is set for May 17-18 at Hebron Baptist Church, Sardis.



Heath

The conference will feature Daryl Heath, who works specifically with small churches through the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Sponsored by the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the conference begins at 7 p.m., Friday, May 17, and concludes at 10:30 a.m., the next day.

Two from Mississippi

Foreign Mission Board approves 69 journeymen

RICHMOND, Va. — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board approved 69 young adults for training as journeymen during its April meeting in Nashville, Tenn. Two have Mississippi connections. They are Lenora Salley and Jamie Smith.

Those approved compose the 22nd

group of college graduates under 27 years old going overseas to work two years alongside career missionaries.

Coming from more than 35 states and the District of Columbia, candidates will fill assignments as teachers; as youth, music and student workers; in clerical positions, and in

the health fields, among other areas of work.

Those who receive medical clearance and successfully complete a five-week training session at the Cauthen Missionary Learning Center

(Continued on page 10)

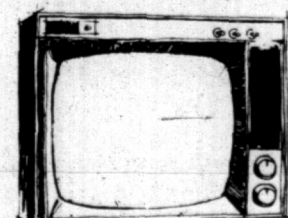


Jamie Smith



Lenora Salley

NewScene to air SBC preview



NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—A preview of the 1985 Southern Baptist Convention will be featured on a special edition of SBC NewScene on Baptist Telecommunication Network.

The 30-minute special will provide an overview of major events and issues expected to surface at the convention in Dallas, June 11-13.

Special guests on the program also will discuss the resolutions committee process and messenger registration.

The NewScene special will be hosted by Gomer Lesch, senior BTN consultant and anchor of the weekly SBC NewScene.

The NewScene special will be telecast on BTN at 11:30 a.m., May 3, and will be repeated 12:30 p.m., May 8; 10:30 a.m., May 20; 10:30 a.m., June 3; and 1:30 p.m., June 7. All times are Central time.

Charles Stanley announces SBC committee appointees

(Continued from page 3)

Bible-believing, evangelistic, mission-minded servants of God. The churches they represent are from a wide spectrum in size, giving, and involvement," he said.

Stanley said he provided the lists to vice-presidents Zig Ziglar of Dallas and Don Wideman of Kansas City, Mo., for suggestions and input. "We did not sit down and discuss the whole thing, but I told them to provide me with suggestions and I would consider them," he said.

He added that while he did receive suggestions, the final selections were his.

Stanley said he does not believe the Committee on Committees will have unusual responsibilities, such as nominating persons to serve on a "blue-ribbon" committee to study the crisis in the denomination. Rumors are circulating a motion will be introduced calling for the creation of a committee to study the situation and suggest means to resolve it.

"From what I have heard, any motion will include recommendations concerning the membership of such a committee," Stanley said.

He added the Resolutions Committee "will have to be very, very careful. I think we don't need to contribute any more confusion or volatile subjects than necessary."

He said, however, he believes the persons he has appointed "are very wise people. I think they will serve well and make wise decisions. I think they will consider resolutions in the context of the tension (currently in the convention.)"

Stanley named George Schroeder, a physician and a member of Little Rock (Ark.) First Baptist Church, chairman of the Committee on Committees.

Larry Lewis, president of Hannibal-LaGrange College in Hannibal, Mo., was named chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Hannibal-LaGrange College is a four-year school affiliated with the Missouri Baptist Convention.

Resolutions Committee

Executive Committee members are: Gary Young, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz.; Carolyn Miller, a housewife and member of First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., and Tommy Hinson, pastor of First Baptist Church, West Memphis, Ark.

Other members are:

Marv McGrew, a layman from Circle Drive church, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Billy Cline, pastor of Merrimon Avenue church, Asheville, N.C.; Cecil Sims, executive director of the Northwest Baptist Convention, Portland, Ore.; Alma Ruth Morgan, a church staff member from First church, Bartlesville, Okla.; Larry Holley, a physician and member of North End church, Beaumont, Texas; Bob Dugan, pastor of Columbia church, Falls Church, Va., and Lewis, chairman.

Committee on committees

ALABAMA: Al Jackson, pastor of Lakeview church, Auburn; Larry

Sellers, member of Thomasville church, Thomasville.

ARKANSAS: James Bryant, pastor of Grand Avenue church, Fort Smith; Schroeder, chairman.

ARIZONA: Bill Stone, pastor of First church, Litchfield Park; R. G. Whitehead, director of associational missions, Estrella association, Phoenix.

CALIFORNIA: Jim Goodman, a chiropractor and member of First church, Thousand Oaks; Roger Spradlin, pastor of Oildale First Church, Bakersfield.

COLORADO: Art Graves, pastor of Bicentennial church, Fruita; Debi Grebenik, housewife and member of Black Forest First church, Colorado Springs.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Joe Edmonds, pastor of Friendly church, Friendly, Md.; Sam Hodges, a government employee and member of Hillcrest church, Washington.

FLORIDA: Susan Hawkins, housewife and member of First church, Fort Lauderdale; Homer Lindsay Jr., co-pastor of First church, Jacksonville.

GEORGIA: Andy Frahler, educator and member of First church, Atlanta; Ike Reighard, pastor of New Hope church, Fayetteville.

ILLINOIS: Mark Mize, layman and member of Gateway church, Millstadt; Danny O'Guin, pastor of Tabernacle church, Decatur.

INDIANA: H. S. (Hugh) Barger, layman and member of Calvary church, Evansville; David Simpson, editor of the Indiana Baptist, news-journal of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana.

KANSAS-NEBRASKA: Dean Denington, layman and member of First Southern Church, Topeka; Charles E. McDonald, pastor of First church, Belle Plaine, Kan.

KENTUCKY: Richard Dendler, pastor of Hall Street church, Owensboro; James E. Wheatley, layman and member of St. Matthews church, Louisville.

LOUISIANA: Mike Gilchrist, evangelist and member of Willow Point church, Shreveport; Carroll Karkalits, educator and member of Trinity church, Lake Charles.

MARYLAND-DELAWARE: Carmen Hartsfield, pastor of Landover church, Landover Hills; William Taaffe, journalist and member of Montrose church, Montrose.

MICHIGAN: Floyd Key, layman and member of Westside church in Flushing; George Seelow, pastor of Dix Avenue church, Lincoln Park.

MISSOURI: Rich Moore, attorney and member of First church, West Plains; John Gilbert, pastor of First church, Poplar Bluff and president of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

MISSISSIPPI: Doris Evans, housewife and member of Colonial Heights church, Jackson; William Green, pastor of Edwards church, Edwards.

NORTH CAROLINA: Horace Hall, pastor of Freedom church, Wilmington; Don Taylor, layman and

member of Beverly Hills church, Asheville.

NEW MEXICO: Jim Prock, pastor of First church, Carlsbad; Lillian Green, housewife and member of First church, Jal.

NORTHWEST: Danny Dickson, pastor of East Side church, Springfield, Ore.; Richard Burson, layperson and member of Vine Street church, Roseburg, Ore.

OHIO: Bill Barner, director of missions, Greater Columbus association; Jerry Lankford, layman and member of Greater Columbus church, Columbus.

OKLAHOMA: Steve Boehning, pastor of Immanuel church, Shawnee; Tom Holland, layman and member of Highland Park church, Bartlesville.

SOUTH CAROLINA: James L. Oliver, pastor of Central church, Darlington; George Smith, layman and member of First church, Columbia.

TENNESSEE: Bob Burch, pastor of Calvary church, Knoxville; Joe Rowell, layman and member of Briarcrest church, Memphis.

TEXAS: Damon Shook, pastor of Champion Forest church, Houston; Mark Fuller, layman and member of San Jacinto church, Amarillo.

VIRGINIA: Ann Davis, layperson and member of Bethel church, Yorktown; Bob Estes, pastor of Ocean View church, Virginia Beach.

Dan Martin is Baptist Press news editor.

Monday classes return to SBTS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — For the first time in nearly 40 years, students at Southern Seminary here will be able to attend class on Monday starting this fall.

A total of eight Monday-only classes in theology and religious education will be offered in the fall semester, with each lasting 2½ hours. Students will be able to enroll in a maximum of two Monday courses.

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Gene Nabi will speak at Garaywa to teachers of mentally retarded

Gene Nabi, consultant in the special ministries unit of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, will lead conferences for all parents and teachers of mentally retarded persons at Camp Garaywa, during a retreat, May 17-18.



The retreat, sponsored by the Sunday School

Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is for all special education persons, their parents, and teachers. It will begin with supper at 6 p.m. Friday, May 17, and will conclude at 4 p.m., Saturday, May 18.

At least one chaperone is needed for every three special education persons planning to attend. Also, a registration fee of \$4.75 per person (parent or special ed) should be sent to Billy Hudgens, Sunday School Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205. This registration fee is part of the total cost of \$18.75 for the entire retreat.

Prayer law struck

BECKLEY, W. Va. (EP)—A federal judge has struck down West Virginia's 6-month-old school prayer law as unconstitutional. The law, which was approved by state voters, authorized a daily period of silent prayer or meditation by schoolchildren.

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Keith Parks won't back Stanley; sees threat to cause of missions

By Bob Stanley

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The head of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board said April 19 he will not support the reelection of Charles Stanley as Southern Baptist Convention president.

R. Keith Parks said his decision was based on a threat to the cause of missions which he sees in recent developments within the denomination.

The mission board administrator said attacks on Southern Baptists' cooperative mission approach and suspicion cast on SBC agencies have erupted into a distrust of Southern Baptist missionaries.

Parks said he felt compelled to speak out after he attended the funeral of Baker James Cauthen, the board's executive-director emeritus, who died April 15. Parks said he "remembered how this spiritual giant had given 40 years to calling us to our central task (missions)."

For the past 60 years Southern Baptists have supported missions and other denominational programs through the Cooperative Program, a plan through which individual churches designate part of the money given by members to fund programs on a state and denomination-wide level.

The denomination's home and foreign mission programs receive more than two-thirds of all money made available to support denominational-wide programs.

When threats are made to withhold funds and churches begin to reduce Cooperative Program giving, Parks said, the result is that "the missionaries are the ones becoming hostage to the conflict and the lost of the world are the losers."

He said Charles Stanley's participation in the convention and his church's support of convention causes have been "minimal." Stanley is pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta.

Parks described Stanley as an outstanding preacher and said he does not have anything against him personally. But he urged Southern Baptists, when they meet in Dallas in June for their annual convention, to choose officers and agency trustees "who are unquestionably committed both to the Bible and to our cooperative convention approach to missions."

Parks said a recent action by one Southern Baptist church, signed by the pastor and seven deacons, "brought the present attack on the agencies and the Cooperative Program to its logical conclusion." Because supporters of Stanley have accused Southern Baptist seminaries of being liberal in their theological teaching, and because all foreign missionaries are required to have attended a Southern Baptist seminary, Parks said the church had concluded that many of the missionaries must be liberal and must be teaching liberal theology overseas.

The church asked Parks to send the church the names of the missionaries he felt were "genuine, Bible-believing

evangelistic missionaries." But, Parks said, since he himself was also suspect as an agency head, the church said it then would write these missionaries and, after questioning, determine which ones their conscience would allow them to support.

"I refused to honor the request of that church, for the request had in it the potential dismantling of the Southern Baptist Convention," he said.

Parks has received letters from a few churches saying that, because of "liberalism" in SBC seminaries of some action by another agency, they have decided to designate money for the two mission boards alone.

"In each case I have pled with them not to do that," Parks said. "To be sure for a time both mission boards would receive more money. But soon the disintegration of our total cooperative effort would set in, and we would be set back 60 years."

Parks said the current turmoil in the convention is "the inevitable result of what has been stated by influential leaders and written in certain publications consistently over the last four or five years." The Cooperative Program, he said, has been attacked as if it were a living organism, rather

than the channel through which Southern Baptist churches support missions and other causes their members have agreed on.

Such attacks have eroded confidence in the way Southern Baptists have worked, including their support of missions, Parks declared. Regular and consistent attacks also have been made on all Southern Baptist agencies, their boards of trustees and the agency heads, he added.

Parks said there is no drift toward liberalism in the convention. "The agency heads, the trustees of the agencies, the professors in the seminaries are Bible-believing Southern Baptists. When a former missionary called to ask a (Foreign Mission Board) staff member if I really believed the Bible, I recognized the insidious results of the campaign that has been going on."

The question was not about anything that I have ever said or written in more than 30 years of representing our Lord and preaching his word and serving in missions. But rather the question came because there is so much criticism of agencies that anybody related to an agency is now suspect. I resent that and declare without equivocation that I and the

other agency heads believe the Bible and are as committed to it as any of those who would seek to dismantle our convention."

The accusations have come. Parks said, at a time when "our denomination continues to grow in missions, in students in our seminaries, in evangelism, in giving, and in every other way convention strength can be measured."

"Certainly there are a few among us who do not believe the Bible like I think they should or like some others, think they should. They are a very, very small number. They are not the mainstream, and the drift is not toward liberalism. No evidence is found. We are in Bold Mission Thrust with more people being saved, more countries being entered, more missionaries being sent, and a greater evangelistic thrust around the world than any other evangelical group."

Despite the denomination's growth and vigor, Parks said, its critics are urging:

— A more rigid creedal approach to doctrine as the convention's controlling force rather than cooperative missions;

— Independent local church mission programs rather than a denominationwide cooperative mission effort;

— Supplanting the local churches' right to make decisions on doctrine, ordination, and ethical issues, with these to be determined at convention level;

— Insistence on creedal conformity instead of trusting each individual to live under the authority of the Bible (the traditional Southern Baptist understanding of the priesthood of the believer);

— Civil religion replacing the time-honored biblical concept of separation of church and state.

"With all of these efforts to undermine and destroy the mission force that has characterized Southern Baptists, I could no longer be silent," Parks said. "As I thought of Dr. Cauthen and what he meant, I determined I would not stand in his place without lifting my voice in the support of the cause that has rallied Southern Baptists for 140 years."

"May we not deliberately or unconsciously destroy the most effective mission force in the world today?"

Stanley writes for the Foreign Mission Board.

"Singing Nun" dies

WAVRE, Belgium (EP)—Jeanine Deckers, the guitar-playing "Singing Nun" who came to worldwide attention in 1963 two decades ago with her song "Dominique," committed suicide along with an unidentified friend last weekend. The former nun was 52. According to Belga, the Belgian press agency, the two died of a massive dose of sedatives. Friends said the two had been depressed, partly because of financial problems at a children's institution they ran.



Pickering

Sumrall

Blue Mountain commencement to be May 5

The one hundred twelfth commencement exercise at Blue Mountain College will be held on Sunday, May 5, at 3 p.m. The program will begin with the baccalaureate service at 11 a.m.

The baccalaureate address will be presented by Tom Sumrall, pastor of First Church, New Albany. Sumrall is a graduate of Louisiana College and earned a master of theology degree from New Orleans Seminary. He served as a missionary to Brazil, 1977-1981.

There are 78 candidates for degrees from four states and fourteen Mississippi counties who will receive diplomas in the commencement exercises.

Charles W. Pickering of Laurel will present the commencement address. Pickering is a senior partner in a law firm in Laurel. He has served in many political offices, including Jones County prosecuting attorney and city judge, as well as an elected member of the Mississippi State Senate. Pickering is serving as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for the second term.

Both programs will be presented in the Modena Lowrey Berry Auditorium.

Cauthen had prayed for Baptist unity, wife says

By Art Toalston

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Baker James Cauthen prayed for unity among Southern Baptists. He would want others to do the same, his mission co-workers and friends were told at his funeral.

James Flammig, pastor of First Baptist Church, Richmond, said to more than 800 people at Cauthen's April 18 service: "He would want me to say to you, 'Please pray for the unity of the faith in Jesus Christ... that we will once again see our purpose bound up in the world mission.'"

Cauthen, executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board from 1954 to 1979, would want fellow Baptists to realize anew that their missionary calling is "from the Lord Christ who said, 'As the Father has sent me, so send I you,'" Flammig said in his memorial message.

Flammig's comments were based on what Cauthen's widow, Eloise, told him.

In an interview after the funeral, Mrs. Cauthen said, "It was a great burden on my husband's heart to see that the convention he loved had become a battleground of 'we' and 'they.' He so yearned for it just to be 'us.' He felt so keenly a sorrow over the fact that motives and actions (among Baptist factions) have been so unfriendly in so many ways."

"For weeks, he hardly ever offered a prayer that did not include prayer for the convention, that the issues would be resolved, that factions might be broken down, that we might be

united in the one business of the convention — to get the gospel out to the world."

Mrs. Cauthen said her husband felt "it was the devil's trick to take our attention off... the Lord's command (to evangelize)."

"Some people have felt that maybe we are too big and that, if we'd split, it would be all right, but he (Cauthen) didn't see it that way," his wife said. "He felt that we ought to acknowledge that not everybody interprets the Scripture in the same way, but we all love the Lord in the same way, we believe on him in the same way, and we ought to be about his business in the same way."

Although he had an urgency in prayer for the convention, she said, "I wouldn't say the issue killed him, but it has hurt very deeply. He wanted to be a bridge. He had so many friends of all types (of outlooks), and he didn't want to be anything but a unifying factor."

"He was not worrying himself to death over the situation, but he realized that God could do something about it," Mrs. Cauthen said.

At the graveside, when Mrs. Cauthen was given a plaque with a Foreign Mission Board resolution lauding Cauthen's work, she said, "He would be sure to say, 'Remember, it was a whole team.' He didn't do it alone."

Toalston writes for the Foreign Mission Board.

Hearing Loss Is Not A Sign Of Old Age.

Chicago, Ill.—A free offer of special interest to those who hear but do not understand words has been announced by Beltone. A non-operating model of the smallest Beltone aid of its kind will be given absolutely free to anyone who sends for this free model now.

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Offer not valid in California.

'Peace initiative' fails; said 'too late'

By Dan Martin

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — A "peace initiative," designed to avoid a "wholesale bloodbath" at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas apparently has failed.

Gene Garrison, pastor of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, and former second vice-president of the SBC, told Baptist Press he proposed a meeting of key leaders from various factions in the denomination in an effort to "keep this thing (the SBC) from coming apart."

Leaders of the right-wing or inerrancy faction, he said, turned down the plan. "They said it was too late . . . that the missiles are already in the air," Garrison said.

Garrison, seen as a "moderate," said the overture was made "entirely on my own and came about because I have really been troubled by what is happening. I have promised God and everybody that I am not going to be part of the slander and divisiveness that is going on but that I will try to do what I can to bring peace."

"I have been in at least three meetings where attempts were made to discuss our differences. I left each feeling more alienated. What I proposed was that we have a meeting where we would not talk about our differences but about ways to avoid division," Garrison said.

Garrison said he had "at least three long telephone conversations with Adrian Rogers," former president of the SBC and pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, Tenn., about ways to bring about such a meeting and a detailed agenda for any such meeting.

"We started out talking about binding arbitration," Garrison said. "But that idea was dropped because we knew there would be problems getting a panel acceptable to both sides. I suggested that we just have a meeting of the people who have been leaders on both sides to see if we could head off problems in Dallas."

Garrison said he suggested a four point agenda and Rogers suggested a fifth.

First — "We would urge that Charles Stanley (current SBC president) be unopposed. In exchange, he would commit himself to a process of nominations and appointments which would assure fairness on all sides."

Second — "All of those who are now involved in travelling across the convention and speaking in rallies would stop speaking, or, at least, turn their attention toward peace."

Third — "During the coming year, we would make some sort of arrangement whereby the news articles concerning the controversy could be screened by some process to have the emotional factors removed. In exchange, publications such as the Southern Baptist Advocate stop publishing entirely."

Fourth — "The Resolutions Committee (at the 1985 meeting) would either ignore or decline to handle divisive issues which have been spoken to during the last five or 10 years."

The fifth, which Garrison said Rogers proposed, would negotiate "negative designation" of Cooperative Program contributions, allowing

churches to decline to support certain work such as the six seminaries, which they find objectionable.

Rogers was contacted by Baptist Press and confirmed Garrison's proposal.

"I really appreciated the effort Gene made," Rogers said. "I think his reasoning is probably sound. I don't think that what portends for Dallas is good. I am grieved because I know the Father (God) is displeased when his children can't get along. I appreciated the effort Gene made; I appreciated him calling."

Rogers added he believes such a meeting is "still not an impossibility. It may still transpire, but the problem

is that so many things have been set in motion that we don't know whether or not something like this can be done."

The Memphis pastor said he talked to Stanley about the proposal during a meeting. "Basically Charles (Stanley) felt he doesn't have anything to bargain with except good will. He said he has gone overboard to make the appointments good, solid Southern Baptists."

Although Rogers did not elaborate on the meeting in which the proposal was discussed, Baptist Press has learned Stanley and Rogers met in Dallas in the Amfac Hotel April 17. The meeting also included former

SBC presidents Smith and Draper; Paul Pressler; Paige Patterson; Russell Kaemmerling, editor of the Southern Baptist Advocate, and Fred Powell, senior associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta.

Rogers added the first four points "are ideas Gene (Garrison) had and I basically would agree with those. On the matter of negative designation. I want to be very careful. I think the best thing for us (the SBC) would be for us all to believe as much alike as we can. I am not for the demise of cooperative missions, I am for cooperative missions."

"The only reason negative designation is mentioned is to keep people from feeling they have to crucify their convictions to support all we are doing. This is a way of seeing how we can continue to cooperate," Rogers said.

He added he believes the SBC came into being to "do missions. Now, by and large, all we do is called missions. Therefore when we give to 'missions' we also give to the Historical Commission, the Christian Life Commission, theological education, and all of that. Some of it is missions, some is quasi-missions and some is not missions at all."

Garrison said participants could include seminary presidents Roy Lee Honeycutt of Southern, Russel H. Dilday Jr. of Southwestern, and Randall Lolley of Southeastern, Cecil Sherman, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, and Kenneth Chafin, professor at Southern seminary.

On the other side of the table, he said, representatives could be Paige Patterson and Paul Pressler, leaders of the inerrancy movement; Stanley and former SBC presidents Rogers, James T. Draper Jr. and Bailey E. Smith.

"If we could get a group like this together, those who are actually lead spokesmen for the two sides, and each side would make some concessions, I think we could head this thing off in Dallas. If things keep on like they are

going, it doesn't make any difference whether Charles Stanley wins or loses the election; the real loser will be the Southern Baptist Convention."

Garrison said he asked Rogers to discuss the possibilities of such a meeting with Stanley. "He told me he would be meeting with Stanley to pray and encourage him, and that the proposal would be discussed. He (Rogers) told me there was hope — not big — but hope."

The Oklahoma City pastor said he called Rogers for an answer. "He told me he had met with Stanley and 'the brethren' and they felt they had nothing to negotiate with and that such an effort was 'too late.'"

Rogers said he is "in favor of anybody getting together before or after or anytime to talk and to pray and to be open and loving." However, he added: "I think the possibility of it (a meeting such as Garrison proposed) is a little remote."

"I think it is probably a little late for that. I am doing what I can to support the ministry and presidency of Charles Stanley, but at the same time I am trying to do what I can to be loving and positive in spirit toward those who may disagree."

He added he does not believe Stanley should come "hat in hand and say, 'Please don't oppose me.' I think the ball is in the court of those who will oppose Charles. Either they will or will not. That is almost a decision they have to make unilaterally," Rogers said.

Rogers added he "certainly expects Charles Stanley to be reelected. But in all honesty, I think brethren ought to negotiate whether they win or lose if there are points where they can negotiate. I don't think the 'conservatives' ought to fail to negotiate because they think they have a position of strength."

"The point is that I don't know that we have anything really to negotiate with other than matters of conscience. And that cannot be negotiated."

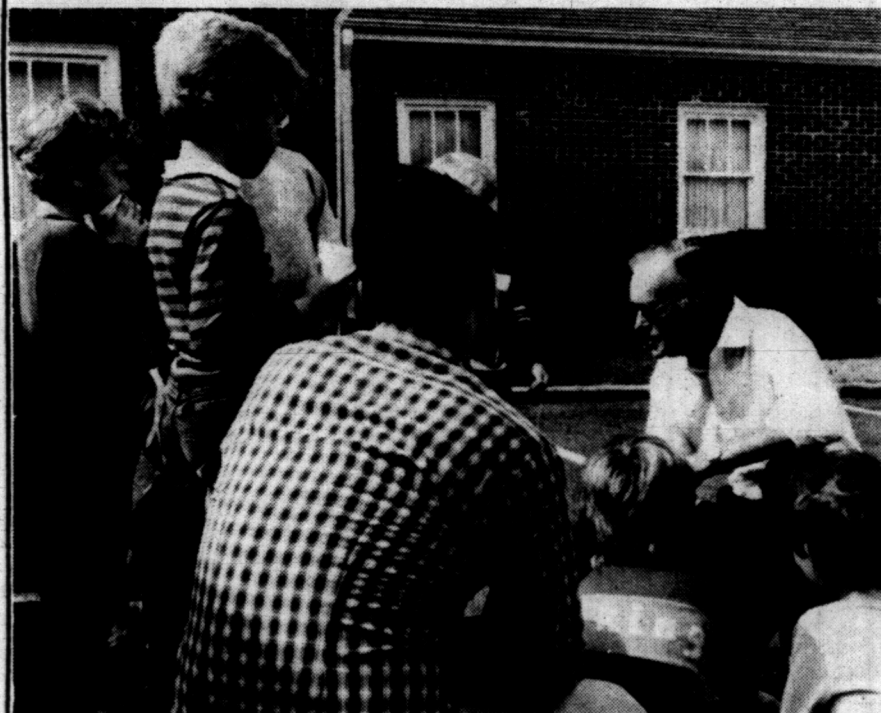
Dan Martin is Baptist Press news editor.

RAs take a bike hike

Royal Ambassador boys in the Hinds-Madison Baptist Association held a bike hike for home missions on March 2. Sponsored by the Brotherhood organization of the association, Joe Chapman, director, more than 50 boys and leaders participated in the 12 mile hike. Ten churches were represented and the boys secured pledges from members of churches for each mile they rode.

Missionaries were on hand at the rest stops to talk to the boys about missions. They were James Foster, retired missionary to Surinam; Dolton Haggan, former missionary to the Choctaw Indians; and Luther Tucker, director of the Hinds-Madison Baptist Center.

Churches provided refreshments at the rest stops.



Luther Tucker, director of the Hinds-Madison Baptist Center, talks with boys at their last rest stop.



Hinds-Madison boys wait for the bike hike to start.

Singles are set for Gulfshore 'Serendipity'

May 17-19 is the weekend for "Serendipity: The Singles Experience." This is the annual Singles Weekend at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian. The weekend will feature Len Sehested, Ken Brumley, and Faye Burgess.

Len Sehested is a lecturer and author and a former missionary to northern India under appointment by the Australian Baptist Convention. Ken Brumley is minister to singles at Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Tex. And Faye Burgess is a blind pianist, singer, and composer from Nashville.

Seminar leaders include Mrs. Harold Hollman, chairman of the Sociology Department at Hinds Junior College and a frequent speaker and writer on issues related to singles; and Paul Jones, executive director of the Christian Action Commission which sponsors the event.

Registration for Gulfshore Singles Weekend can be made by contacting Frank Simmons, manager, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. Each reservation must be accompanied by a \$30 deposit which will apply to the approximately \$56 cost of the weekend.

Registration will begin at the assembly at 2 p.m., May 17.

As scarce as truth is, the supply has always been in excess of the demand. — Josh Billings

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**NEW
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Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

Californians are good partners

Disappointment is crossing Town Creek when you're all set to cross the Golden Gate Bridge. I found that out last week.

Ever since January I'd been planning to visit San Francisco — my favorite U.S. city. The week after Christmas I got a letter from Raviwan Thumchai, my Thai friend who used to teach at Jackson State University but now teaches in a university in Bangkok. She said she would be coming to California in May and as president of the professional teaching organization of Thailand would be bringing with her 43 teachers and administrators.

She said, "The members really want to know more about your work and your convention. Is it possible that you could arrange for us to meet the Baptists of California and could you give some lectures about what you have done for your people and for the world? And maybe you might arrange for us to visit some Baptist schools. I can give a speech about moral education in schools in Thailand." (She is Buddhist, as are a majority in that country.)

Now of course I would be happy to see my friend, whom I have not seen for perhaps seven years, and also to meet all those teachers from Thailand. I would be happy to tell them something of what Baptists seek to do for the world — and why they do it and for Whom they do it. I would be happy to tell them that Jehovah God, the creator of the world, is a personal God who loves us, who hears our prayers, and acts on our behalf, who revealed his love for us through Jesus.

Though California and Mississippi have been partners in missions for several years, I have not had a chance yet to meet many of them, or to visit any of their churches. Through this experience I found out firsthand what first-rate partners they are!

Lonnie S. Chavez, director, Language Missions Department, Southern Baptist General Convention of California, and his secretary, Helen Ratliff, went more than the second mile.

They arranged — and rearranged — and rearranged — programs. He found escorts who could speak Thai, and answered all my questions. Thumchai wrote and said the date had been changed to April. Then she began to have visa problems. The number to come was cut to 20, and then to 18. The dates were changed again slightly, twice. I called Thumchai one day at 1:30 p.m. It was 2 a.m. in Thailand, so I got her out of bed.

In San Francisco, the teachers were to visit Golden Gate Seminary, a Southern Baptist church, Berkeley, and Stanford, and see the redwoods at Muir Woods. In Los Angeles, where I did not plan to go, they would meet the Baptist pastor, Andrew Chan, and travel to California Baptist College, Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church, Riverside, and the English Language Center.

Friday morning, April 19, I had my plane ticket, my hotel reservation, my bag packed, and was ready to leave next morning. Jerry De Oliveira, director of missions for the San Francisco area, called and said he had been substituted for Peter Chen as escort and would meet me at the airport. "I'll be carrying a big sign, with 'Anne' on it."

After lunch Friday I found a note on my desk: "Call Helen in Fresno." She had bad news: "They have cancelled the trip altogether." It seem that not enough of them could get permission either to leave Thailand or to enter the U.S. I'm not sure which. I know that Thumchai was even more disappointed than I.

All last week I walked around, drowning in self-pity. Here I was, as usual, my nose to the typewriter, when outside springtime was bursting at the seams and in California, no doubt, the sun was even brighter.

I was deeply disappointed, that I would not get to meet the Thai teachers and to share with them the Good News, as I had long planned.

All last week I saw everything through dark-colored glasses. Imagine then what a blank I drew when Bonnie Brown asked in Sunday School yesterday, "What special spiritual blessing did you experience this week?" Oh, the blessings had been there, but I'd had my head hung too low to see them.

Last night I re-read Betty Carlson's book, *No One's Perfect*. She tells about a woman who lives in Milan, Italy. Past 80, she has come through many trials, but she still smiles, trusts God, and cares for others. The secret of her strength and joy and flair in living, Betty said, is found in two words: *domani ancora*, or "Tomorrow is another day." She learned to say this when tragedy — or even some pesky little disappointment — arrived.

Another day I may meet those nice California Baptists, my Thai friend may come here, or I might even go to Bangkok with Pansy Rankin when she goes to visit her son, Jerry. In the meantime, as Jeremiah said, "I still have hope . . . His compassions never fail. They are new every morning" (Lamentations 3:22,23).

Clinton women hear Martha Franks

Martha Franks was guest speaker at the Women's Conference at Camp Garaywa sponsored by Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, on April 20. Also she spoke at the 8:30 a.m. worship service at Morrison Heights on April 21.

Miss Franks served for 41 years as a Southern Baptist missionary to China and Taiwan.

In the Sunday morning service at Morrison Heights, she shared her memories of the Shantung Revival, a spiritual awakening that came about in China in the early part of this cen-

'Baptist True Union' new newspaper name

LUTHERVILLE, Md. (BP) — For 68 years the newsjournal for Southern Baptists in Maryland and Delaware was called *The Maryland Baptist*, one of seven names the newspaper has had.

With the first issues in April, *The Maryland Baptist* was no more. A name change was made necessary since the convention's legal name was changed last November to include Delaware.

So the staff and state paper committee decided to go back to the original, and call the paper the *Baptist True Union*. The first modern day Baptist True Union was issued April 14.

The subscription rates will remain the same and the paper still will be mailed 48 weeks each year.

Baptist College at Charleston to have help

WHITE OAK, S.C. (BP)—Financially beleaguered Baptist College at Charleston will receive immediate and long-range benefits from an aid package approved March 12 by the general board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

One striking aspect of the plan is other institutions who receive funds from the state convention—including Furman University, Anderson College, and North Greenville College—agreed to give up their share of all contingent reserve excess and unencumbered daily interest from the 1985 state budget so Baptist College can get the entire amount of approximately \$400,000.

Another unusual feature requires the calling of a special meeting of messengers from the convention's more than 1,750 churches on May 9 to consider permitting Baptist College to go directly to churches to ask for budget help. It will be the only item on the agenda of the meeting, believed to be the first such called session in the convention's history.

The general board also provided additional collateral from the contingent reserve to enable Baptist College to secure a 15-year, \$1.8 million consolidating refinancing loan. The money will refinance a current \$1 million, five-year loan, cover a \$500,000 debt on the college chapel and provide \$300,000 for several short-term loans.

tury. "Prayer," she said, "is the key to spiritual awakening."

In the retreat, one subject she covered was "how to get on praying ground." She suggested: (1) Confess all your known sin, and make right any wrong done to man.

(2) Toss out any doubtful habits. What do you read? How much TV do you watch? How much money do you spend for pet food? It's not that any of these is harmful in itself, but too much of either, to the detriment of more important things, might be.

(3) Obey the Holy Spirit promptly.

Thursday, May 2, 1985

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

A voice of reconciliation

Cooper, Baugh to publish 'Baptist Laity Journal'

By Tim Nicholas

Owen Cooper, of Yazoo City, the last layman to be elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and John Baugh, chairman of the board of Sysco Corporation in Texas, have announced plans to publish a new periodical, *The Baptist Laity Journal*.

Cooper told the *Baptist Record* that he hoped the first issue would be out sometime in May, prior to the June SBC meeting in Dallas.

"We hope it would be a voice of reconciliation," said Cooper. "There is a group of us who feel like we want to use the voice of the pew in bringing together the diverse points among Southern Baptists," he said, "recognizing there will be diversity by maintaining unity in the areas of evangelism, missions, Christian education, stewardship, and discipling or equipping the saints."

Cooper indicated that much of the planning was yet ahead of the new publication, such as compilation of a mailing list. He said that the first issue was being edited largely by James Cole, former editor of the *Louisiana Baptist Message*. Cole is executive vice president of the Baylor University Alumni Association.

Baugh, a member of Second Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., announced at a San Antonio meeting concerning the denominational controversy last week that the periodical will be designed

"to inform Southern Baptist laity and to protect and preserve traditional Baptist doctrines."

A statement of purpose, written by Baugh noted that in the current crisis, "one voice has been silent, that of the laity. As major stockholders of the Convention, it is imperative that the laity let their voices be heard above the roar of the raging storm."

Baugh said that many Southern Baptist laity "resent the threat posed to the historical Baptist doctrines, the Cooperative Program, and related causes. Some of these laymen and laywomen, as volunteers (not employed by any Southern Baptist Church, agency, or institution), have formed an organization to publish the *Baptist Laity Journal* to inform Southern Baptist laity and to protect and preserve traditional Baptist doctrines."

Baugh's statement of purpose noted that these laypersons intend "to resist efforts of those who do not recognize these doctrines but seek rather to gain control of Southern Baptist churches, agencies, and institutions."

Cooper said that the organization is still in its formation stages and that other names of those involved would be released shortly. As to content of the first issue, that was still being developed. "I doubt if I see the content before it goes to press," said Cooper.

Devotional

Church begins at home

By John Thomason

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15).

When Joshua spoke for his family that day in Shechem, he was speaking on behalf of a whole tribe of people. A household in ancient Israel was a year-round family reunion under one roof! Joshua endured the stresses — and enjoyed the benefits — of an "extended" family. In those days, patriarchs and matriarchs had in-house baby-sitters, teachers, maids, and nurses.

Today, in the absence of extended families, our culture has fashioned its own unique system for raising children. In management circles, it is called "delegation of responsibility." In the nuclear family, it is called "farming out the kids."

Mothers and fathers cannot hope to provide all things for their children, so we have created a network of specialists outside the home. Schools, clinics, day care centers, and churches offer the very kinds of services Joshua provided under his own tent. We are living in a dream world if we think it could be otherwise. The nuclear family needs outside help.

But the outside helpers need help, too! Specifically, the church needs help from the home. All too often, the spiritual nurture of children is farmed out by parents to the church. If our children learn their ABC's from school teachers and get their medicine from physicians, why not let them "get religion" from preachers and Sunday School teachers?

But church leaders cannot — in two hours on a Sunday morning — give a child a thorough crash course on Christian faith. The Sunday School and the pulpit need reinforcements from the home front. There must be groundwork laid and encouragement given. The church serves as an ally to parents, not as substitute teacher.

A child's experience of church begins at home. This is where first impressions are formed and where lasting impressions are made. The home needs the church to give it strength and support; the church depends on the home as its primary training ground. The church needs parents who will echo the affirmation of Joshua: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Thomason is pastor, Northminster, Jackson.



Thomason

SBC Committee on Boards nominates seminary trustees

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Trustees to serve the six Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated seminaries have been nominated by the SBC Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees.

The nominations are included in the Committee on Boards report, released to Baptist Press April 16, by Bob Eklund, urban evangelism associate with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, and committee chairman.

Under convention bylaws, seminary trustees serve five-year terms and are eligible for two full terms on the boards.

Trustees are clergy or denominationally related, unless specified.

SOUTHERN SEMINARY (63 trustees): 14 nominations considered; 10 new trustees, four reappointed.

Nominated to replace members ineligible for a second term are John T. Wallace of Parkway Church, Lexington, Ky., replacing Wayne Dehoney, Louisville; W. Ray Frye, a land developer and member of Calvary Church, Alexandria, La., replacing William P. Greenlee, Lake Charles; William Watkins Causey of Parkway Church, Jackson, Miss., replacing David R. Grant, Jackson; Gerald C. Primm of Eller Memorial Church, Greensboro, N.C., replacing W. Linville Roach of Greensboro; Kenneth E. Hall, a contractor and member of Crescent Hill Church, Louisville, replacing Joseph Stopher of Louisville (local member); Joe D. Cross, an auto dealer and member of Walnut Street Church, Louisville, replacing Frank Ellis of Louisville (local member); and Roy Savage, Hillside Church, Greeley, Colo., replacing James Latimer, Denver (at-large member).

Nominees to fill unexpired terms are Sam H. McMahon Jr. of First Church, Charlotte, N.C., replacing John L. Ryberg, Smithfield, who died (1986), and Robert D. Beddingfield of First Church, South Lyons, Mich., replacing Gary W. Schwitz, Novi, who resigned (1987).

Bob L. Wagner of Second Church,

Marion, Ill., replaces Jim W. Robinson Sr., Belleville, who declined a second term.

Reappointed to a second term are William H. McBeath, Washington, D.C.; Ronald D. Stewart, Lebanon, Ohio; Richard T. Hopper, Ardmore, Okla.; and Vernon O. Elmore, Corpus Christi, Texas.

SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY (36 trustees): 8 persons considered; 6 new trustees, 2 reappointed.

New trustees replacing members ineligible for second terms are Jim V. Dice, a businessman and member of First Church, Salem, Ill., replacing George H. Kunce, Herring; Truman B. Smith of First Church, Clio, Mich., replacing Michael M. Nardin, Detroit; Rheubin L. South, executive director of the Missouri Baptist Convention and member of First Church, Jefferson City, replacing Donald V. Wideman, North Kansas City, and Ron S. Lewis, a church growth specialist and member of Clearview Church, Brentwood, Tenn., replacing Melvin G. Faulkner of Seymour.

Baggett of First Church, Haysville, Kan., fills the unexpired term of Earl E. (Gene) Hawkins, Topeka, who resigned (term expiring 1989).

Renominated for second terms are Drew J. Gunnels Jr., Mobile, Ala., and John P. McNaughton, Fort Worth, Texas (at-large member).

NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY (36 trustees): 7 nominations considered; 3 new trustees, 4 reappointed.

Nominated to replace trustees ineligible for reappointment are Charles L. Wood of University Church, Wichita, Kan., replacing Kenneth D. Emerson of Wichita; Forrest Jackson of First Church, Pryor, Okla., replacing Robert Post, Tulsa, and Gene Brock, a dentist and member of First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, replacing Wayne O. Watts, Wichita Falls.

Renominated for second terms are David B. Ray, Pontiac, Mich.; Ernest L. Carswell Jr., Taylors, S.C.; B. Conrad Johnston, Salem, Va., and Andrew C. Nolin Jr., Montgomery, Ala. (local).

SOUTHEASTERN SEMINARY (30

trustees): 7 nominations considered; 5 new trustees, 2 reappointed.

Nominated to replace trustees ineligible for reappointment are Robert D. Crowley of Montrose Church, Rockville, Md., replacing John E. Roberts, Baltimore, and Arlie L. McDaniel Sr., director of missions and member of Trinity Church, Moscow, Idaho (representing Northwest Convention), replacing W. E. Speed, Pasco, Wash.

James Warren Herron of First Church, Rock Hill, S.C., replaces Henry Finch Jr., of Rock Hill, who resigned; William Dial Delahoyde, assistant U.S. attorney and member of Providence Church, Raleigh, N.C., replacing Charles D. Page, Charlotte, who moved, and Ralph E. Holt Jr., of Lake Forest Church, Wilmington, N.C., replacing John G. Hicks, Asheville, who died.

Renominated to second terms are Bill G. Bruster, Knoxville, Tenn., and Jesse P. Chapman Jr., Asheville, N.C.

MIDWESTERN SEMINARY (35 trustees): 8 nominations considered; 5 new trustees, 3 reappointed.

Nominated to replace members ineligible for renomination are Robert T. Baggett Jr., First Church, Dothan, Ala., replacing William A. Hartley, Birmingham; Melvin M. Hill Sr., director of missions and member of First Church, Grandview, Mo., replacing Dan Rainbolt, Independence (local), and Robert L. Perry, director of missions and member of Nashua Church, Kansas City, Mo., replacing K. David Stone of Independence (local).

David Simpson, editor of the *Indiana Baptist* and member of Calvary Church, Greenwood, Ind., fills the unexpired term of Rondell L. Stovall, Terre Haute (expiring 1987), and Lowell E. Socolofsky, a college professor and member of Westside Church, Omaha, Neb., fills the unexpired term of William H. Camp, Columbia, Mo. (expiring 1986).

Renominated to second terms are Marvin Roush, Hyattsville, Md. (DC Convention); Philip Lykes, Lakeland, Fla., and J. Truett Gannon, Stone Mountain, Ga.

GOLDEN GATE SEMINARY (35 members): 8 nominations considered; 3 new trustees, 5 reappointments.

Bonnie G. Metcalf, assistant professor at California Baptist College, and member of Palm Church, Riverside, Calif., was named to replace George Musacchio, Riverside, who was ineligible for reappointment (at-large member).

Named to fill unexpired terms are Norman H. Taylor of First Church, Silver Spring, Md. (DC Convention) replacing John W. Baker, who died (term expiring 1986), and Robert Ferrell of Rosemont Church, Montrose, Colo., replacing Murray Boyd, Aurora, who resigned.

Reappointed to second terms are Mrs. William L. Self, Atlanta; O. Q. Quick, Baton Rouge, La.; Mal Utley, Lexington Park, Md.; James H. Slatton, Richmond, Va., and James W. Rives Jr., Van Nuys, Calif. (at-large member).

Revival Dates

County Line, Crystal Springs: Wed.-Sun., May 1-5; services, 7:30 p.m. nightly; 11:00. Sunday morning; covered-dish lunch on Sunday after the service and a community hymn singing afterwards, with no evening service; Talmadge Smith, Copiah County director of missions, preaching; Reginald Pittman, music; Bob Mack, pastor; the church is located on County Line Road, just north of Crystal Springs; the bridge is still out, so you will have to approach from the north.

Center Hill, (Monroe): May 5-8; 7 p.m., Jimmy Nettles, full-time evangelist, Texas; Lee Murphy, music; Don Nerren, pastor.

Mt. Zion, Columbia: May 5-10; services 7:00 p.m. Perry, pastor & evangelist; J. music director; David Watson, minister of music; Linda Inmon, pianist; Eric Dafron, organist.

Forest Hill, Jackson: May 5-8; services nightly at 7:00 p.m. Bible study and covered dish lunch each day; Gary M. Bowling, a full time evangelist, preaching; Gene Rester, Jackson, music, with him will be "Eddie", a wooden puppet who joined his ministry several years ago.

Even the clock passes the time by keeping its hands busy. — The Galva (Ill.) News



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Highland, Jackson, members sign "promissory note" for offering

Highland Church, Jackson reached its Annie Armstrong Offering goal in one week. To do this the congregation of Highland Church voted March 7 to sign a "promissory note."

The note read: "We the congregation of Highland Baptist Church, in recognition of our responsibility in the area of home missions and Bold Mission Thrust, do herewith commit ourselves to an amount of \$1,500.00 as the face value of this note that shall be due on the 14th of March 1985."

The "note" was signed by the pastor and the chairman of deacons. The victory was complete as the church paid the note on the due date in full and burned the note during the morning service. The total amount received was \$1,809.69.



Highland Church, Jackson burns note of \$1,809.69 for Annie Armstrong offering. Pictured (left to right) Cliff Shipp, pastor; Milton Ferrell, chairman of deacons; and Phyllis Champion, WMU director.

Just for the Record

Calvary Church, Braxton, subscribed the entire church debt of \$13,000.00 plus on April 14. There were 5 additions and 74 in Sunday School April 21, also 5 were baptized the same Sunday. The church has a goal of 100 to be enrolled in VBS June 3. Henry J. Bennett, pastor.

Goss Church, gave \$1,652 to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions. Though the church did not reach its intended goal, this offering represents an increase of \$700 over the 1984 offering. Matt Buckles is pastor.



Groundbreaking for a new educational annex was held March 10 following the morning worship of the East Union Church, Route 1, Magnolia, (Pike Assn.) The 32' x 60' building will consist of four classrooms, a pastor's study, and a large meeting room. Building committee, pictured, (left to right) are James Hucabee, Hollis Lang, Snuffy Smith, Britt Simmons, Carl McDaniel, and Dale Wilson, pastor. Also, a member of the committee not shown is James Frank Williamson.

Topisaw honors Pearl Reeves

Topisaw Church, Lincoln County, recently recognized Miss Pearl Reeves, a member of the congregation for 70 years. The church held a program in her honor on April 7. She was presented a corsage, preceding a "This Is Your Life" skit.

The pastor, Laverne F. Musser, said it is highly unusual for a person to hold a continuous, active membership in one church for such a long time.

One of eight children, Miss Pearl Reeves was born in 1902 in the century-old white house (a mile south of the church,) where she still lives. She was baptized in 1915 in Topisaw Creek, behind her home.

She recalls that Topisaw Church years ago was "one oblong room with a door at each end." Its latest renovation came three years ago. Topisaw now has about 200 members.

During her youth, Miss Reeves remembers, she and her family traveled to preaching once a month and Sunday School twice a month. It took two vehicles to hold the whole family, a surrey and a buggy.

She was graduated from Mississippi College, taught school for 11 years, worked as a bookkeeper for Lincoln County Co-op.

For many years she taught older boys and girls in Sunday School at Topisaw. At 83, she still attends church regularly.

Damaged Bibles sent to mend damaged lives

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Bibles Behind Bars began as a project of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board when Home Bible Study began receiving 30 requests per month from prisoners for Bibles and the Holman Division had a supply of slightly damaged Bibles to be given away.

Last December Holman gave the Home Bible Study staff about 200 Bibles which could not be sold because of damaged or imperfect covers and Home Bible Study agreed to answer the prisoner requests, according to Connie Scudder, assistant editor of Home Bible Study Guide.

However, an appeal was made in March to the 1,800 board employees to help provide Bibles for the project because the Holman supply would soon be depleted.

In a week-long collection project, Home Bible Study collected more than 700 Bibles, Testaments, and Gospels from board employees for distribution to prisoners, Scudder said.

Although the number of Bibles donated are enough to last about two years at the current rate of requests, they probably will be gone much sooner, predicted Mildred Heinicke, letter analyst for Home Bible Study, who answers the requests for Bibles, and sends the free Home Bible Study Guide.

Because of the continuing need and the positive response from board employees the project will probably be an annual event, Scudder said. She added some employees had asked about getting their churches involved in the project.

Northminster concert to feature Marilyn Mason

Northminster Church, Jackson, announces memorial services and organ concert, May 5, 3 p.m. The concert will feature Marilyn Mason, professor of music and chairman of the organ department at University of Michigan. The recital is timed to coincide with the 18th anniversary of the church.

Mason has been heard in organ recitals throughout North and South America and Europe. She has also presented a number of harpsichord and violin concerts, including Carnegie Recital Hall.

The memorial service is to honor members who have died since the church's founding in 1967. The Austin Organ was given to the church in memory of one of the charter members, Roger W. Stribling, Jr.

John A. Thomason is pastor.

San Antonio church gives 20% "tithe"

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP)—The sale of 22 acres of land by Shearer Hills Baptist Church here for \$5.4 million has allowed the church to give a 20 percent "tithe" of the proceeds to mission causes.

Pastor Charles Wisdom, who is leaving to become pastor of First Church in Katy, Texas (a suburb of Houston) said the church paid \$250,000 for the acreage north of San Antonio in the late 1970s with the idea of starting a church.

Instead the land was sold. About \$3 million will go to buy land elsewhere and build a church and \$1.2 million will pay off the church's indebtedness and build education space. Another \$100,000 will be placed in a scholarship fund to benefit ministerial students from the church.

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Staff Changes

Susan Clark has accepted full time minister of music and youth at Oakdale Church, Brandon. She is a



Clark has been with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Church Music Department since May 1980. She is currently serving on the

native of Jackson and is a graduate of Mississippi College and holds master of church music and religious education degrees from Southwestern Seminary. Miss Clark has been with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Church Music Department since May 1980. She is currently serving on the

State Steering Committee for "Celebration '85". Miss Clark served at Twin Lakes Church for 4 years as minister of music and youth. Alan Kilgore, pastor.

Kenny Adair has resigned as pastor of Algoma Church.

Hulette Kidd has resigned as pastor of Buchanan Church, Pontotoc County.

Glen Reeder has been called as part-time minister of music at Cherry Creek Church, Pontotoc County.

Sherman Church has called Steve Bennett as minister of music and activities.

Pray for MKs

May 14 — Margaret E. Martin, Nigeria, University of Southern Mississippi.

May 18 — Jerrell R. Ballard, Colombia, Mississippi College.

May 19 — Gregory A. Davis, Philippines, Itawamba Junior College.

Goss senior adults organize FFF Club

The older senior adults of Goss Church, Columbia, have organized the FFF Club (Food, Fun, Fellowship). The purpose is for fellowship and ministry to those over 55.

Jerry White and his wife, Glenda, on furlough in Columbia, and a native of the Goss area, spoke to the club at the February meeting about everyday life as foreign missionaries in Korea.

John Bewley, minister of activities at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, provided entertainment at the March meeting. Rex Braswell, Hattiesburg laymen, spoke at the April Meeting.

Irene Martin, musical personality of Forest, is scheduled to be with the group on May 21. Attendance has been averaging 40. Mary Ruth White is the group's coordinator; Matt Buckles is pastor.

Missionary News

Donald W. and Teresa Bolls, missionaries to the Niger Republic, have completed language study in France and arrived on their field of service (address: BP 10038, Niamey, Niger Republic). He is a native of Jackson, Miss., and she is a native of Grady, N.M. They were appointed by the foreign Mission Board in 1983.

Italy not Catholic

ROME, Italy (EP) — Italy is no longer officially Catholic. The Italian Chamber of Deputies ended Roman Catholicism's status as the state religion on March 20.

Homecomings

Cary Church, Cary: homecoming, May 5; 10 a.m.; Harold Jordan, interim pastor; Charles Wesley, speaker; covered dish dinner to follow services; with the Mid-South Boys providing the special music for the day.

Mashulaville (formerly Elim) (Noxubee) 150th anniversary; 2:00 p.m. Sunday, May 5; after the service documents, photographs, and other mementos connected with the history of the church will be on display; Wilburn Matthews, pastor.

Harmony, Mize: homecoming; Sun., May 5; services begin at 10 a.m.; Scott Waters, former pastor will bring the 11 a.m. message; lunch will be served and special singing in the afternoon with a quartet and other singers.

Names in the News

Joe Abrams, former associate editor of the Baptist Record, now retired, and his wife, Lillian, have moved from Moorhead to Greenwood. Effective May 1, their new address is Magnolia Manor, Apt. 3-B, Greenwood, MS 38930.

Felix V. Greer, Sr., 78, died April 18 in Jackson. He was the father of Felix V. Greer Jr., missionary to Liberia. Felix Greer Jr. is a native of Louisiana. His wife, Frances (Dene) is a native of Mississippi. Their address is P. O. Box 1416, Monrovia, Liberia.



Members of East Lincoln Church, Brookhaven, recently honored their pastor, James C. Harris with Pastor's Appreciation Day on March 31. The morning message was brought by Dennis Duvall, pastor of Grace Church, Philadelphia. Covered dish luncheon followed the morning message with a reception honoring Harris and his wife, Judy.

Allen O. Webb, who retired in December 1984 as director of missions for Jackson County Association, and his wife, Leila Mae, have been invited by the Foreign Mission Board to go to Munich, Germany, for a year while Kenneth Glenn is on furlough. They

went to Richmond, Va. on April 21 for orientation; they plan to leave for Germany by mid-August. The Webbs now are in North Dakota, where he is interim pastor of the Calvary Southern Baptist Church at Emerald.

Claude Speights, member of Hepzibah Baptist Church, Lawrence County, died April 6 at the Baptist Medical Center in Jackson, as the result of a heart attack on April 5. He was buried in Hepzibah Cemetery on Easter, April 7. His pastor, Bob Goolsby, says, "He loved, worked with, and supported every pastor who came to his church, and was known as 'Papa Claude.' In his life he worked with new and experienced preachers, and helped all of them to grow."

Kathy Manning, Miss Mississippi 1984 and second alternate to Miss America, will be a special guest of Oakdale Church, Brandon, Sunday Morning, May 5. Manning will meet with the youth during the Sunday School hour and will sing and give her testimony at the morning worship service. She is a native of Drew, and attends Ole Miss. Alaf Kilgore is pastor of Oakdale.

Dan Mooney Jr., 63, died April 9. He was a deacon of Moselle Memorial Church, Moselle, and a Sunday School teacher. He held a perfect attendance record in Sunday School at the time he was stricken with cancer. His wife, Gladys, was WMU director. Among other survivors is his mother, Mrs. Bertha Mooney, 93.



Manning

1,000 Attala Baptists hear California pastor

The Attala Baptist Association recently invited Howard Davis to speak in eight churches. The Home Missions Week of Prayer emphasis had 1,000 persons hear his message.

Davis is pastor of the newly organized Chino Hills Baptist Church in Chino, Calif. Likely the only evangelical witness in the area, the church meets in a commercial building in Chino. It began on Easter,

1984 with 14 people and this Easter had more than 100 present.

Attala director of missions Levon Moore preached there in January and said he "became convinced that this area presented one of the greatest home mission challenges in the United States." He said he expects more generous financial support of home missions and that individuals will be going to that area for short term volunteer work.

Journeyman are approved

(Continued from page 3)
in Rockville, Va., will be commissioned by the board July 19.

Lenora Salley of 5301 33rd Place, Meridian, is to be assigned as an elementary and secondary MK teacher in Sanwabo, Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta). She expects to be graduated from Mississippi State this year. As a BSU member she was missions chairman, a discipleship group leader, and on the missions committee. Also she was a summer missionary in Idaho. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis E.

Salley, she was born in Meridian. She is a member of First Baptist Church, Starkville.

Jamie Smith, 113 Keith Lane, Clinton, will be assigned as a secretary in Johannesburg, South Africa. She was born in Shreveport, La. and considers Minden, La. her hometown. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Smith of Clinton, she is a member of First Baptist Church, Jackson. She is a senior at Mississippi College. In BSU she was on the freshman council and the executive council and was family group leader and Bible study leader.



Mike Racey, a Mississippian appointed to serve as missionary in Chillan, Chile, is currently studying Spanish in Costa Rica. Every third Saturday he and his family make the one and one-half hour trip from San Jose up the mountain to Hogar Biblico, a home for children from poor home situations. The home ministers to about 60 children. The Raceys and other language school students and their children share their love for these children with Bible stories, songs, arts and crafts, games, and snacks. In the photo, Mike, standing on a bench, is mobbed by children trying to get more cookies.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- May 4 Senior Adult Choir Festival; City Auditorium, Jackson; 10:00-12:00 a.m. (CM/CT)
- May 5 Family in Bible Study Day (SS & CT Emphasis)
- May 5-12 Christian Home Week (CT & CAC Emphasis)
- May 6 WMU Special Day and Edwina Robinson Offering (WMU) Emphasis)
- May 7 Key Leader Seminar; Baptist Building; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (WMU)
- May 11 Youth Speakers Tournament; Parkway BC, Jackson; 10 a.m.-Noon (CT)

Selection Tournament; Parkway BC, Jackson; 2 p.m. (CT)

Evangelist says Sandinistas confiscated food, clothing

By Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP)—A Southern Baptist evangelist has charged that Nicaraguan authorities have gone back on their agreement to permit him to distribute food and clothing and to conduct evangelistic services in the war-torn Central American nation.

Larry Jones, who heads an Oklahoma City-based evangelistic and relief ministry called Feed the Children, told reporters two weeks ago that top Nicaraguan officials, including President Daniel Ortega, had assured him he could preach without restrictions and that more than 130 local participating churches would be allowed to distribute the food and clothing supplied by his ministry.

Instead, Jones charged during an April 23 press conference on Capitol Hill that Nicaraguan authorities had confiscated his food shipment as well as religious publications he took with him to Nicaragua. Rather than being permitted to preach in a national stadium or some other large facility, Jones told a group of reporters in the office of Sen. David L. Boren, D. Okla., that he spoke in a church yard while in Nicaragua.

Jones said he returned to Washington to meet with Boren and other members of the Oklahoma congressional delegation in hopes of having pressure exerted on Nicaraguan leaders to release the food and other supplies. He dismissed the notion of

any connection between his press conference and the House and Senate votes scheduled the next day on President Reagan's request for \$14 million in aid to rebels fighting Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

"I'm not trying to influence the vote," Jones declared.

Jones said his shipment of 228,000 pounds of beans and rice and 25,000 pounds of clothing arrived in Nicaragua in late March. He estimated the food he shipped would supplement the diets of 50,000 people for a month. In addition, Jones said he lost 5,000 Spanish New Testaments, 600 Spanish Bibles, 50,000 gospel tracts and 10,000 sermons translated into Spanish.

Jones is a member of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.

Chesser writes for the Washington bureau of Baptist Press.

Foreign Board . . .

(Continued from page 3)
in California. Now she is a nurse and patient education coordinator at Singing River Hospital in Pascagoula.

The Boudreauxes have one child, Christy Michelle, born in 1981.

The five newly appointed missionaries will go to Rockville, Va., in August for an eight-week orientation before leaving for the field.

Revival Results

Highland Church, Laurel: "Go Tell" evangelistic crusade; April 7-10; Freddie Gage, evangelist; high attendance of 801 in Sunday School on Easter, beginning day of the crusade; 229 professions of faith; 117 persons baptized by the church during the week; James Merritt, pastor. (The church has baptized 192 persons since the beginning of the 1984-85 church year.)

Second highest

FORT WORTH, Texas — Southwestern Seminary here recorded its second-highest cumulative enrollment ever during the 1984-85 academic year.

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NEWS BULLETIN
FOR ALL
MISSISSIPPI BAPTISTS

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING REQUEST

MAY 12, 1985

FROM

THE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

The India Nunnery Campus, Jackson

The New Albany Group Home, New Albany

The Farrow Manor Campus, Independence

Reedy Acres, Water Valley

Dickerson Place, Brookhaven

Deanash, Bond

And

(Village Foster Homes)

WHY MAY 12?

Because Mother's Day is the convention's suggested date for The Baptist Children's Village's DIRECT appeal to the churches for an offering

HOW WELL HAVE WE DONE IN THE PAST?

We have reached a plateau:

1982	1983	1984
\$214,422.00	\$216,056.00	\$219,540.00

OUR ADOPTED MOTHER'S DAY GOAL

for the past three years

\$260,000.00 (Annually)

OUR NEEDS ARE THE GREATEST EVER

because we minister to over
600 different
boys and girls each calendar year

OUR TOTAL ADOPTED BUDGET GOAL

for fiscal year 7-1-84 — 6-30-85 is

\$1,750,000.00

OFFERING ENVELOPES WERE MAILED IN JACKSON FRIDAY, APRIL 26, TO ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTORS AND PASTORS.

If your church needs more materials please write or call. Of course each church is free to promote the MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING AS DESIRED. A suggested way is to pass out offering envelopes on May 5 and STRESS that an OPPORTUNITY will be given on MAY 12, MOTHER'S DAY for each individual to make an offering for THE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S VILLAGE.

Baptist Children's Village

P. O. Box 11308
Jackson, Mississippi 39213
601-922-2242

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National Association of Homes for Children
Licensed by State of Mississippi
PAUL N. NUNNERY
Executive Director

THE VILLAGE VIEW



FROM
Baptist Children's Village

P. O. Box 11308

Jackson, MS 39213

Gifts of Honor and Memory March 26 — April 25

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Baptist Record

- Uniform: Faith in spite of suffering
- Bible Book: The kingdom — present and future
- Life and Work: Perils of privilege

The kingdom—present and future

By Bill R. Baker
Luke 17:1-37

When one travels to another country he wants to learn everything he can about life in that new place. One of the interesting things about listening to foreign missionaries is hearing about life in their country. The subject of Luke 17 should be very interesting because it tells about life in the kingdom of God. Anyone observing the citizens of God's kingdom should discover the following six characteristics in practice.

The seriousness of causing another to stumble (vs. 1-2). The word offend means "cause to stumble." Offenses will come in this world, but there is a special woe placed on those through whom they come. The kingdom citizen understands that he is accountable for his influence (see Romans 14:21).

The importance of forgiveness (vs. 3-4). When one has been wronged in the kingdom, he must retaliate by pursuing a course that leads to forgiveness and reconciliation. God has never equipped the kingdom citizen to carry the load of vengeance; that belongs to himself exclusively.

Necessity of faith (vs. 5-6). The mustard seed puts forth the dynamic of life while appropriating all the resources surrounding it in order that fruit may be produced. A reference to the tiny mustard seed is not intended to illustrate the amount of faith possessed by the disciples, but rather it is designed to show the possibilities of faith properly planted and cultivated. The grain of mustard seed does not need to be increased in size; it only needs to be properly placed. The same is true of faith. The size of faith is not so important as the placing of faith.

The concept of service (vs. 7-10). The comment here implies that the question had been asked, "What do I get as a reward for service in the kingdom?" The answer is that the Christian looks for neither reward nor respite. The word "unprofitable" in verse ten means "one who has rendered no service beyond his obligation. Kingdom servants are eager to go beyond the things commanded.

Spirit of thanksgiving (vs. 11-19). The reason thanksgiving is so important in the kingdom is because this is one way the kingdom citizen acknowledges the source of all blessings.

To be ungrateful is to be unaware of providential provision, and to be unaware is to be out of character in the kingdom.

The visibility of the kingdom (vs. 20-37). The kingdom is both present and future and the kingdom citizen understands that. The day of the King is now (v. 21) and in the future (v. 24).

The kingdom citizen knows that he is a participant in the kingdom today for "the kingdom of God is within." He also knows that he must live in anticipation of the King's return.

Even though the second return of Christ is a subject sometimes causing confusion (v. 23 "see here; or, see there"), it is a comforting subject to the Christian. It would be difficult if not impossible to relive the days of Noah and the days of Lot if there were no hope of the King's return.

Until he comes, may his kingdom continue to increase and may his kingdom citizens increase in their likeness to him by protecting a brother; forgiving when offended; expressing faith; serving beyond expectation, and giving thanks to God.

Baker is pastor, First, Clinton.

Faith in spite of suffering

By W. Levon Moore
Job 40:1-9; 42:1-6

In today's world there is a false philosophy which claims that if one is a true Christian . . . if one puts God first in his life . . . if one is deeply spiritual . . . if one just prays and asks God, that person will never have any sorrow or suffering. This philosophy is at the heart of the theology of some of today's glittering spiritual super-stars.

This belief, however, is not biblical. This certainly was not the experience of great men of faith during biblical times, such as Abraham, Moses, Hosea, Jeremiah, John the Baptist, and Paul the Apostle.

Recent lessons in this series have led us to study the experience of Job. Like all these others, Job was a man of faith, yet he suffered. Job learned through his struggles that he could keep his faith in spite of suffering. This was true for three reasons.

I. Because of what God had done in the past (40:1-41:34).

Job, Chapter 40, recounts some of Job's complaints and the Lord's answer to Job. By this time in Job's experience of suffering he realized that his complaints against God were not justified. In verses 4-5, Job answered the Lord, "Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth. Once have I spoken; but I will not answer; Yea, twice; but I will proceed no further."

God spoke to Job out of the whirlwind. The majestic passage which follows to the end of Chapter 40 and through Chapter 41 sets forth some of the creative works of God. These powerful acts of God are contrasted with the puny powers of man. The chapter ends with the statement, "Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear. He beholdeth all things: he is a king over all the children of pride" (41:33-34).

When you and I consider the history of the past, we are amazed at all the mighty works of God. Our faith in his powerful acts in the past sustain us even in times of suffering.

responsibility, so clearly enunciated by Amos, applies doubly when viewed in the light of Christ's teaching to man. For most Americans, seeking after God and his righteousness comes last, after all these things, rather than first. Smug complacency towards the needs of the less fortunate becomes a creeping paralysis which keeps the church from denouncing injustice, greed, immorality, and corruption in government.

Could it possibly be denied that we are "at ease in Zion"? Are we living beyond the day of God's judgment in history, or are we too great to experience God's hammer of judgment?

Yates is pastor, First, Yazoo City.

II. Because of what God was doing at the present (42:1-6).

When Job looked around and considered the things which God was doing in his own time, he took courage. In deep humility, Job said, "I know that thou canst do everything, and that no thought can be withholden from thee" (42:2). Job also declared, "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eyes seeth thee" (42:5). He seemed to be saying, "I have heard of your mighty works in the past, but now I see for myself some of the works of your hand in this present time."

Our own faith is strengthened when we look around and see how God is performing miracles even today. This conviction that God is alive and is at work today gives stability to faith even in the midst of our suffering.

III. Because of what God will do in the future (42:10-17)

The latter part of Chapter 42 reveals that "The Lord turned the captivity of Job . . . also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before" (42:10-17). He blessed Job with the restoration of material possessions, and also vindicated and strengthened his faith.

Our faith is sustained even when we suffer, for we recognize the great promises of God concerning his blessings and victories.

The biblical writer declared, "So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning" (42:12). We can endure any amount of suffering today when we consider what God has in store for us tomorrow. The Apostle Paul captured the spirit of this assurance of victory when he wrote, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). It continues to be true that, "The future is as bright as the promises of God."

Moore is director of missions, Atlanta Association.

Perils of privilege

By James F. Yates

Amos 3:10, 15:4-2; 6:1, 4-8

Amos pictures Israel in a state of confusion and disorder. Might and oppression were ruling over right and justice. Such a condition had come about, not by sheer chance, but because "they know not to do right" (3:10). No longer did they desire that which was true, straightforward, and honest. Amos was setting in sharp contrast the way of God's teaching with the way of robbery and violence. The rulers and leaders were guilty of extreme forms of oppression, storing up their ill-gotten gains in their palaces.

One of the examples of impending destruction which is to come upon Israel concerned the houses, of which the rich were quite proud. He displayed his indignation toward these evidences of unbridled luxury and prosperity by mentioning such houses four times (v.15). He was concerned about the sharp contrast between the extreme poverty of the underprivileged and the opulence of the rich.

Amos, as the prophet of God, put his finger upon the throbbing heartbeat of Israel's problem. He interpreted correctly the cause of the nation's ills. The ultimate cause of corruption was traced directly to the women of the day. He designated them as fat, sleek cattle (4:1). The women of the day were guilty of oppressing the poor and crushing the needy. Such action was not direct but indirect; yet the women were responsible. It was at their insistent demand that their husbands oppressed others in order to obtain the luxuries of the day. Their condemna-

tion lay not in that they were fat and sleek, but that in the midst of their plenty the poverty of the masses was to be observed.

Amos' charge is a parable on all human existence. "The poor are always with us," society is often reminded. Society should be reminded just as often that the fat cattle who have grown sleek at the expense of the poor are also always with us.

The condemnation of the wealthy women involved more than a promise of punishment or denunciation. Amos pictured God as taking an oath toward the fulfillment of this aspect of his purpose. When the days of fulfillment arrived, the woman would no longer know the contentment of fat cattle grazing on the fertile plains of Bashan. Instead they would be stripped of their finery and led captive with hooks (4:2). This should be understood literally since it was the Assyrian custom to lead away the more conspicuous captives by a hook passed through the nose or the lip.

Life among Israel's corrupt and oppressive strata of society was characterized with four words, "at ease in Zion" (6:1). While the multitudes lay beneath the heavy yoke of a corrupt social system in which the farmer was cheated at the markets and the helpless were abused in the courts, the leadership of the nation was in a complete state of ease.

It was not wrong to be at ease. In fact, this was the promise of God to the faithful remnant. But it is wrong to be at ease in Zion, basking in unprecedented prosperity, when one's fellow Israelite is in the most extreme

condition of want and need. It is a crime to be at ease in Zion at the expense of the less fortunate.

It is reprehensible in the sight of God for a people to drink wine from bowls, eat the best from the flock and herd (6:4-6), and at the same time ignore the cry of the oppressed, the downtrodden, and the outcast at one's very door.

Having been led into a false sense of security by the prosperity of the times, Israel not only dismissed all serious thought but gave herself to unprecedented luxuries and abandoned herself to flagrant indulgences. This denunciation was simply a continuation of the attack upon the leadership of Israel. The easy life was characterized by the extravagant furniture which typified the affluent era (v. 4), the type of food eaten by the idle rich (v. 4), the practice of singing "idle songs to the sound of the harp" (v. 5), the drinking habits of the social leaders (v. 6), and the use of fine oils for anointing the body (v. 6).

The word "therefore" in verse 7 introduced the inevitable consequences upon those whom Amos called "the notable men of the first of the nations" in 6:1. Their self-indulgence and their indifference to the cries of the needy would assure them a place in the exile to come. Little did those who first heard these words realize how soon this would come to pass. With the fall of Israel in the last quarter of the eighth century, the words of Amos were literally fulfilled. Twentieth century society would do well to take note of this.

The principle that privilege brings

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